



A Broadband Awareness Initiative from the [Iowa Communications Network](#)



SAFEGUARD YOUR DATA

4 Simple Steps to a Rock-Solid Password

Advanced persistent threat groups continue to target K–12 schools. Small adjustments can make a big difference in protecting your data and devices from threat actors.

Source: EdTech Focus on K-12

Education

[What it Means to Be a Woman in Tech](#)

Only 18% of women in the US pursue computer and information sciences degrees. Once the next generation of young women knows what it means to be a woman in tech, hopefully we will see fewer low statistics.

Source: Iowa Stem

Cybersecurity

[Here's the Technology Government Needs in 2021](#)

This year, \$118.7 billion in technology spending is projected for state and local governments. Industry experts shared their projections along with challenges facing the market.

Source: Government Technology

[How Virginia Tech's IT Security Office uses forensics to solve cyber incidents](#)

During forensic investigations, the goal is not only to figure out how they performed the attack, but also how to identify & protect against it in the future.

Source: Virginia Tech Daily

[Free cybersecurity competition for Veterans](#)

Top performers in the annual challenge invited for professional Cyber Camps training

Source: Dept of Veterans Affairs

Government

[How Can Government Defend Against DDoS Attacks?](#)

A DDoS attack is a cyberattack from multiple, remote locations intended to cripple an organization's online operations, and it's one of the top four cybersecurity threats of our time.

Source: Government Technology

[Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship Piloting Online Commercial Pesticide Applicator Testing](#)

This technology offers "flexibility to take the exam from their homes or offices given the current public

health guidelines.”

Source: Red Oak Express

Digital Divide

[New FCC Program to Help Low-Income Households with Internet](#)

The program is lauded by Navajo Nation leaders because it will strengthen Internet access for tribal members.

Source: Government Technology

[How Library Closures Hurt Adult Learners as Kids Doubled Down on Digital Reading](#)

15% of U.S. adults lost their main source of internet access as libraries started to shut down. 31% used it for “academic research or a school assignment.”

Source: Ed Surge

[100Mbps uploads and downloads should be US broadband standard, senators say](#)

Pandemic showed that “upload speeds far greater than 3Mbps are critical.” The current FCC broadband standard of 25Mbps down / 3Mbps up was established in 2015.

Source: ArsTechnica

Healthcare

[One year in, broadband access and telehealth are two big winners under COVID-19](#)

Both parties long advocated better internet broadband access and more use of telehealth; the coronavirus made it happen

Source: Roll Call

[Expansion of remote tech can help safeguard care for people with disabilities](#)

A new report finds that telehealth could play a vital role in helping to better support the needs of those with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Source: Healthcare IT News

[The Chair of the Board of the American Telemedicine Association Answers Your Questions About Telemedicine](#)

Joe Kvedar, MD, the chair of the board of the American Telemedicine Association answers a variety of questions about telehealth.

Source: GoodRx

Public Safety

[FirstNet Surpasses 2.71 Million Square Miles Supporting More Than 2 Million Connections](#)

FirstNet continues to gain momentum with over 2M connections, 15K+ public safety agencies, 210+ FirstNet Ready devices, 160+ apps in the #FirstNet App catalog, and much more! Discover how the network is growing:

Source: FirstNet

The Iowa Communications Network is a state-of-the-art fiber optic network providing high-speed Internet, data, voice, security, and consulting services to Iowa's healthcare, education, government, and public safety sectors.